

Message Text

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FOR CU/PC

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SUBJ: EXAMPLES OF GOOD CORPORATE CITIZENSHIP

REF: STATE 51579

1. EMBASSY HAS CAST WIDE NET IN U.S. BUSINESS COMMUNITY SEEKING EXAMPLES OF GOOD CORPORATE CITIZENSHIP WHICH MEET CRITERIA IN REFTEL. CONTRACTS INCLUDE BANKERS, U.S. MEMBERS OF IRAN AMERICA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND NUMEROUS BUSINESSMEN. SEVERAL CONTACTS WITH LONGER ESTABLISHED FIRMS IN IRAN RELATED EXAMPLES IN THE PAST BUT THEN FORMED PART OF VAST MAJORITY OF FIRMS WHO SAID THAT THE ENVIRONMENT OF RECENT YEARS (I.E. POST 1973 "OIL BOOM" ECONOMIC BINGE AND ACCOMPANYING HASSLE OVER BUSINESS AND PROJECT MOBILIZATIONS PLUS THE EVER-ENCOMPASSING IRANIAN EFFORT TO MEET ITS OWN NEEDS THROUGH CONTRACTED SERVICES) HAS NOT BEEN CONDUCIVE TO "COMMUNITY HELP" ACTIVITIES, HOWEVER BROADLY DEFINED. THEIR EFFORTS HAVE BEEN MORE IN AREA OF CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY IN SEEKING THE ADJUSTMENT OF THEIR U.S. EXPATRIATES TO IRAN SO AS TO MINIMIZE THE OTHERWISE-TO-BE EXPECTED STRESSES TO THE IRANIAN SOCIAL FABRIC DUE TO THE INJECTION
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OF SO VAST AN ARMY OF WESTERNERS. SUCH EFFORTS ARE SEEN IN A SUBSTANTIAL DEPARTURE FROM THE (IN SOME CASES UNAVOIDABLE) OFTEN HASTY, ALMOST OFF-THE-STREET RECRUITMENT OF AMERICANS WITH MINIMAL IF ANY ORIENTATION FOR STAFFING OF THE IRANIAN CONTRACTS. FOR MOST LARGE EMPLOYERS (AND WITH THE U.S. MILITARY SOME SIX OR SEVEN FIRMS ACCOUNT FOR ABOUT 85 PERCENT OF ALL

AMERICANS IN IRAN) STAFFING FOR IRAN HAS BECOME A PRIORITY EFFORT WITH CONSIDERABLE RESOURCES APPLIED IN THE RECRUITMENT/ORIENTATION (U.S. AND IN IRAN) PROGRAMS AND ON-GOING PROGRAMS IN IRAN TO MEET THE EMPLOYEE'S RECREATIONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL NEEDS. A PRIME EXAMPLE OF THE LATTER IS THE USG/AMERICAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY COOPERATIVE EFFORT IN THE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER OF TEHRAN, A PROFESSIONAL STAFFED MENTAL HEALTH CENTER PATTERNED AFTER U.S. STANDARDS. THE SDC IS SUPPORTED BY U.S. EMBASSY AND MILITARY IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS, A STATE DEPARTMENT GRANT AND BUSINESSES WHICH PAY DOLS40 PER EMPLOYEE. THE OBJECTIVE OF THESE EFFORTS IS NOT ONLY SELF-SERVING TO THE EMPLOYER BUT TO CREATE A BETTER CLASS OF AMERICAN GUESTS IN IRAN.

2. THE ONLY SPECIFIC PROGRAMS UNCOVERED WHICH MAY BE USEFUL IN THE DEPARTMENT'S (NOW ICA) STUDY ARE:
A) THE PLANNING DIVISION OF THE OIL SERVICES COMPANY OF IRAN (OWNED BY THE IRANIAN OIL CONSORTIUM IN WHICH AMERICAN FIRMS COMPRISE 40 PERCENT PARTICIPATION) PROVIDES GRATIS ASSISTANCE TO THE PLANNERS OF THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF THE PROVINCE OF KHUZESTAN AND B) ALL U.S. BANKS CONTACTED HERE PROVIDE TRAINING PROGRAMS OF UP TO THREE MONTHS GRATIS TO IRANIANS NOMINATED BY GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE BANKS. GENERALLY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE NOMINATING BANK COVERS TRANSPORT AND PER DIEM COSTS. TRAINING PROGRAMS ARE MOSTLY IN NEW YORK BUT MAY INCLUDE OVERSEAS BRANCHES. WE ESTIMATE BETWEEN 40 AND 60 IRANIANS BENEFIT FROM THIS A YEAR AND THE ONLY BENEFIT TO THE U.S. BANK IS GOODWILL.

3. ADDITIONAL DETAILS WILL BE SUBMITTED ON THE FOREGOING PROGRAMS IF REQUESTED.
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